

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

**Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 3 through 8 with the following paragraph:**

This application is a Continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/587,821, filed on June 6, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,358,443, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/305,413, filed on May 5, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,153,129, which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/443,726, filed on May 18, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,922,253, the entire teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

In the Claims

**Please amend Claims 1 and 10.**

1. (Amended) A method for forming microparticles comprising the steps of:
  - a) atomizing a mixture comprising a biocompatible polymer, a solvent for the polymer and a biologically active agent, to form microdroplets;
  - b) directing the microdroplets into a freezing section containing a liquefied gas, whereby the microdroplets freeze; and
  - c) contacting the frozen microdroplets in an extraction section with a liquid non-solvent to extract the solvent into the non-solvent thereby forming said microparticles; wherein the freezing section and extraction section are separated, and the non-solvent is in the liquid state throughout the method.
10. (Amended) A method for forming microparticles comprising the steps of:
  - a) atomizing a mixture comprising a biocompatible polymer, a solvent for the polymer and a biologically active agent, to form microdroplets;